

From: [Grantham, Nancy](#)
To: [Graham, Amy](#)
Cc: [Gray, David](#); [Bowman, Liz](#); [Wilcox, Jahan](#); [Abboud, Michael](#); [Konkus, John](#); [Hewitt, James](#)
Subject: RE: FINAL VERSION OF SUPERFUND RESPONSE
Date: Saturday, September 2, 2017 3:55:43 PM

Ok .. once we get it will get it posted ..

Nancy Grantham
Office of Public Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-6879 (desk)
202-253-7056 (mobile)

From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Saturday, September 02, 2017 4:55 PM
To: Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>
Cc: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FINAL VERSION OF SUPERFUND RESPONSE

Yes, I think so

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 2, 2017, at 4:44 PM, Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov> wrote:

Do we want it posted on the web

Nancy Grantham
Office of Public Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-6879 (desk)
202-253-7056 (mobile)

From: Gray, David
Sent: Saturday, September 02, 2017 4:44 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FINAL VERSION OF SUPERFUND RESPONSE

It should be out shortly. My team is on standby

From: Bowman, Liz

Sent: Saturday, September 02, 2017 3:40 PM

To: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>

Cc: Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>

Subject: FINAL VERSION OF SUPERFUND RESPONSE

Final below – David, please send this out to your lists – Jahan, if you have access to the system, can you also send it out? No harm in some people getting it twice. I can send it to the list of folks that Nancy sent me following the storm, and will be sure the White House and TCEQ have it. Thanks for your help – Liz

STATUS OF SUPERFUND SITES IN AREAS AFFECTED BY HARVEY

WASHINGTON (September 2, 2017) – *Despite misleading and inaccurate reporting, the facts are that EPA and TCEQ are working together, along with other local, state, and federal authorities and emergency responders around the clock to address the human health and environmental impacts of Hurricane Harvey and its effects, especially historic and devastating flooding throughout Southeast Texas. With regard to the status of Superfund sites:*

EPA has conducted initial assessments at 41 Superfund sites in the impacted areas using aerial images, as well as direct contact with the parties responsible for on-going cleanup activities. EPA has determined that 28 Superfund sites in the area do not currently show damage or excessive flooding associated with Harvey. EPA determined that 13 sites have been flooded and/or are experiencing possible damage due to the storm. Of these sites, two (Falcon Refinery and the Brine Service) have been inspected and it has been determined that they do not require emergency cleanup; although, additional sampling in the area will continue to be conducted.

Eleven sites, including: Bailey Waste Disposal, French LTD, Geneva Industries/Fuhrmann Energy, Gulfco Marine, Highland Acid Pit, Malone Services, U.S. Oil Recovery, Patrick Bayou, Petro-Chemical Systems, Triangle Chemical, and San Jacinto Waste Pits have not been accessible by response personnel. Teams are in place to investigate possible damage to these sites as soon flood waters recede, and personnel are able to safely

access the sites.

The San Jacinto Waste Pits site has a temporary armored cap designed to prevent migration of hazardous material; the cap will be inspected as soon as it is safe for teams access the site. Based on forecasted river conditions, this inspection is planned for Monday, by boat. EPA has dive teams to survey the cap underwater when conditions allow.

EPA, TCEQ and other authorities will continue to provide additional updates as we gather them. We encourage the community to continue to follow the expert safety advice of local officials.

For additional information from TCEQ, please visit:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/hurricanes>

From: Graham, Amy

Sent: Saturday, September 2, 2017 4:21 PM

To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>

Cc: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: CURRENT VERSION OF SUPERFUND RESPONSE

Good with me. I don't know that the AP story is technically inaccurate based on the information we had when we responded yesterday but it is certainly misleading.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 2, 2017, at 4:18 PM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

Okay, this is the current version – work from this...also, please reply ALL so that everyone is on the same page. Moving forward, we need to finalize completely internally before we send to Ryan b/c he doesn't need all the back and forth, and his assumption is that once it makes it to him, it's final. So, let's work from this version, make any necessary edits, and then I will send the final to Ryan, Ken, Sam and TCEQ.

WASHINGTON -- *The AP story is not only inaccurate, its flat wrong. The facts are that EPA and TCEQ are working together, along with*

other local, state, and federal responders around the clock to address the human health and environmental effects of Hurricane Harvey.
With regard to Superfund sites:

EPA has conducted initial assessments at 33 Superfund sites in the impacted areas using aerial images, as well as direct contact with parties responsible for on-going cleanup activities. EPA has determined that 28 Superfund sites in the area do not show damage or excessive flooding associated with the storm. EPA determined that five sites have been flooded and/or are experiencing possible damage from the storm. Of these sites, two (Falcon Refinery Site and the Brine Service site) have been inspected by authorities and determined not to require emergency cleanup, although additional sampling in the area will be conducted. Three sites, including: U.S. Oil Recovery, Patrick Bayou and San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund Site have not been accessible by response personnel. However – teams are in place to investigate possible damage to these sites as soon flood waters recede further, and personnel are able to safely access the sites. San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund Site has a temporary armored cap designed to prevent migration of hazardous material and the cap will be inspected as soon as it is safe for teams to do so. Based on forecasted river conditions, this inspection by boat is planned for Monday. EPA has dive teams to survey the cap underwater when conditions allow.

From: Gray, David

Sent: Saturday, September 2, 2017 4:13 PM

To: Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Superfund

HOLD

From: Grantham, Nancy
Sent: Saturday, September 02, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Superfund

Liz .. david's folks can send it out and post it ... I have julia's schedule and she may be out of pocket.

David's folks sent last night's statement.

Thanks ng

Nancy Grantham
Office of Public Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-6879 (desk)
202-253-7056 (mobile)

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Saturday, September 02, 2017 4:10 PM
To: Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
Cc: Coleman, Sam <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>; Forsgren, Lee <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>; Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Superfund

UPDATED and proofread...I am posting this on Twitter, and asking Julia to send it out via press release.

The AP story is not only inaccurate, its flat wrong. The facts are that EPA and TCEQ are working together, along with other local, state, and federal responders around the clock to address the human health and environmental effects of Hurricane Harvey. With regard to Superfund sites:

EPA has conducted initial assessments at 33 Superfund sites in the impacted areas using aerial images, as well as direct contact with parties responsible for on-going cleanup

activities. EPA has determined that 28 Superfund sites in the area do not show damage or excessive flooding associated with the storm. EPA determined that five sites have been flooded and/or are experiencing possible damage from the storm. Of these sites, two (Falcon Refinery Site and the Brine Service site) have been inspected by authorities and determined not to require emergency cleanup, although additional sampling in the area will be conducted. Three sites, including: U.S. Oil Recovery, Patrick Bayou and San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund Site have not been accessible by response personnel. However – teams are in place to investigate possible damage to these sites as soon flood waters recede further, and personnel are able to safely access the sites. San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund Site has a temporary armored cap designed to prevent migration of hazardous material and the cap will be inspected as soon as it is safe for teams to do so. Based on forecasted river conditions, this inspection by boat is planned for Monday. EPA has dive teams to survey the cap underwater when conditions allow.

From: Jackson, Ryan

Sent: Saturday, September 2, 2017 3:57 PM

To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>

Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Coleman, Sam <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>; Forsgren, Lee <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>; Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: Superfund

NICE!!

conveyed to the WH. Let's blast this out.

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff
U.S. EPA
(202) 564-6999

On Sep 2, 2017, at 3:51 PM, Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov> wrote:

Start with this

EPA has conducted initial assessments at thirty-three Superfund sites in the impacted areas using aerial images as well as direct contact with companies who are responsible for on-going cleanup activities. EPA has determined that twenty-eight Superfund sites in the area do not show damage or excessing flooding associated with the storm. EPA determined that seven sites have been flooded and/or possible damaged by the storm. Of these sites, two have been inspected and determined not to require emergency cleanup although additional sampling in the area will be conducted. Five sites including San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund Site have not been accessible by response personnel. However – teams are in

place to investigate possible damage to these sites when flood waters recede further. San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund Site has a temporary armored cap designed to prevent migration of hazardous material and the cap will be inspected as soon as it is safe for teams to do so. Based on forecasted river conditions, this inspection by boat is planned for Monday. EPA has dive teams to survey the cap underwater when conditions allow.

From: Jackson, Ryan

Sent: Saturday, September 02, 2017 2:38 PM

To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>

Cc: Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Coleman, Sam <[Coleman.Sam@epa.gov](mailto: Coleman.Sam@epa.gov)>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>; Forsgren, Lee <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>; Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: Superfund

I need this translated. It is not clear on this what information is being conveyed.

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff

U.S. EPA
(202) 564-6999

On Sep 2, 2017, at 3:32 PM, Gray, David
<gray.david@epa.gov> wrote:

Here is the status of work at each Superfund site within the impacted area. We are working on a summary statement.

From: Jackson, Ryan
Sent: Saturday, September 02, 2017 2:21 PM
To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Coleman, Sam <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>; Forsgren, Lee <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>; Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Superfund

However superfund is the priority. The WH is asking for it now. I'm sure they are responding to questions.

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff
U.S. EPA
(202) 564-6999

On Sep 2, 2017, at 3:09 PM, Gray, David
<gray.david@epa.gov> wrote:

Got it

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 2, 2017, at 3:02 PM,

Bowman, Liz

<Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

Below is the exchange that spurred the AP story today saying that "no EPA personnel were on scene" at these Superfunds. Now, this reporter is manufacturing this in way that doesn't do justice to the hard-working folks on the ground who have been working around the clock ... but we need to get ahead of this and the next story, which will likely be about how we are testing water quality for drinking and waste water systems. Can you guys get your teams to pull together a list of each superfund site in the area (30-33?) and the status report for each site? We just need a bullet or a

sentence for each site.

Separately, we need to get some information about exactly what we are doing, when and how, with regard to water testing in Houston. I am copying the Water folks here, so they can also assist with this information.

I am working on a draft statement now using the most recent EOC report;
but, please send us additional details on specific Superfund sites and water testing details as soon as possible – with the next few hours, so we can work that into our statement.

I am going to connect with TCEQ so they know that we are working on this statement also.

Thank you for your help and assistance,

especially on a
Holiday weekend --
Liz

From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Saturday,
September 2, 2017
2:51 PM
To: Bowman, Liz
<[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>

Subject: Fwd:
Superfund

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded
message:

From:
"Graham,
Amy"
<[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto: graham.amy@epa.gov)>

Date:
September
1, 2017
at
1:53:27
PM EDT

To:
"Biesecker,
Michael"
<[MBiesecker@ap.org](mailto: MBiesecker@ap.org)>,
"StClair,
Christie"
<[StClair.Christie@epa.gov](mailto: StClair.Christie@epa.gov)>

Cc:
Press
<[Press@epa.gov](mailto: Press@epa.gov)>,
"Gray,
David"

<gray.david@epa.gov>

Subject:

RE:

Superfund

That's
correct.
We will
begin
to
assess
other
sites
after
flood
waters
recede
in
those
areas.

From:

Biesecker,
Michael

[<mailto:MBiesecker@ap.org>]

Sent:

Friday,
September
1, 2017
1:09
PM

To:

Graham,
Amy

<graham.amy@epa.gov>;

StClair,

Christie

<StClair.Christie@epa.gov>

Cc:

Press

<Press@epa.gov>;

Gray,

David
<gray.david@epa.gov>

Subject:

RE:
Superfund

When
does
EPA
expect
it will
be able
to visit
and
assess
flooded
sites in
Houston
and
Port
Arthur?
After
the
floodwaters
waters
recede?

From:
Graham,
Amy
[<mailto:graham.amy@epa.gov>]

Sent:
Friday,
September
01,
2017
1:04 PM

To:
Biesecker,
Michael;
StClair,
Christie

Cc:
Press;
Gray,
David

Subject:

RE:
Superfund

Michael

-

Unified
Command
personnel
inspected
two
Superfund
sites in
the
Corpus
Christi
area
yesterday.
Both
the
Falcon
Refinery
Site
and the
Brine
Service
Site
show
no
significant
damage.
No
emergency
clean
up
response
for
storm
damage
is
needed
at the
two
sites.

From:

Biesecker,
Michael
[\[mailto:MBiesecker@ap.org\]](mailto:MBiesecker@ap.org)

Sent:

Friday,
September
1, 2017
12:14
PM

To:

StClair,
Christie
<StClair.Christie@epa.gov>;
Graham,
Amy
<graham.amy@epa.gov>

Cc:

Press
<Press@epa.gov>

Subject:

Superfund

Christie,
Amy,

Following
up
from
earlier
in the
week,
AP is
still
seeking
details
on
what
EPA is
doing
regarding
flooded
Superfund

sites.
EPA's
press
release
on
Wednesday
said
EPA is
"assesses
conditions
at the
NPL
Superfund
sites in
the
storm's
impact
area"
and
was
"began
rapid
assessments
at two
sites
that are
accessible
after
floodwaters
have
receded
and this
work
will
continue."

Which
sites
were
those?
What
did EPA
find?
Did EPA
take

samples
to
determine
whether
contaminates
leached
out into
floodwaters?
Were
more
sites
visited
and
assessed
on
Thursday?
How
many
people
has EPA
assigned
to this
work?

I will
add
that AP
has
visited
three
Houston-
area
superfund
sites
yesterday.
All
were
still
heavily
flooded
and we
saw no
state or
federal
personnel

there
(or
anyone
else).
We are
visiting
and
documenting
more
sites
today.

Michael

<image001.jpg> <image001.jpg>

Michael Biesecker 1100 13 St.
Reporter NW, Suite 700
mbiesecker@ap.org Washington,
Twitter: @mbieseck D.C. 20005-
[Public Key](#) 4076

T 202-641-9445
M 202-465-
6091

Have a
tip for
the
Associated
Press?
We
have a
secure
way to
send it
to us,
anonymously.
Follow
this link
for
instructions:
www.ap.org/tips

AP is
the
essential
global
news
network,
delivering
fast,
unbiased
news
from
every
corner
of the
world
to all
media
platforms
and
formats.
Founded
in
1846,
AP
today is
the
largest
and
most
trusted
source
of
independent
news
and
information.
On any
given
day,
more
than
half the
world's
population
sees

news
from
AP.

“There
are
only
two
forces
that
can
carry
light to
all
corners
of the
globe –
the sun
in the
heavens
and
The
Associated
Press
down
here.”
– Mark
Twain,
1906

“I go
with
Custer
and will
be at
the
death.”
– AP
reporter
Mark
Kellogg’s
final
dispatch
from
the

Battle
of the
Little
Bighorn,
1876

The
information
contained
in this
communication
is
intended
for the
use of
the
designated
recipients
named
above.
If the
reader
of this
communication
is not
the
intended
recipient,
you are
hereby
notified
that
you
have
received
this
communication
in
error,
and
that
any
review,
dissemination,
distribution
or
copying
of this
communication
is

strictly
prohibited.
If you
have
received
this
communication
in
error,
please
notify
The
Associated
Press
immediately
by
telephone
at +1-
212-
621-
1500
and
delete
this
email.
Thank
you.
The
information
contained
in this
communication
is
intended
for the
use of
the
designated
recipients
named
above.
If the
reader
of this
communication
is not
the
intended
recipient,
you are

hereby
notified
that
you
have
received
this
communication
in
error,
and
that
any
review,
dissemination,
distribution
or
copying
of this
communication
is
strictly
prohibited.
If you
have
received
this
communication
in
error,
please
notify
The
Associated
Press
immediately
by
telephone
at +1-
212-
621-
1500
and
delete
this
email.
Thank
you.

<Hurricane Harvey rapid response and
inspection sheet 9-2-17.xlsx>